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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/050,553	01/18/2002	Kazuhiko Shigemi	SAT 171	6049
23995	7590	11/13/2003	EXAMINER	
RABIN & CHAMPAGNE, PC 1101 14TH STREET, NW SUITE 500 WASHINGTON, DC 20005			ELISCA, PIERRE E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3621	

DATE MAILED: 11/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SW

Office Action Summary

Application No.
10/050,553

Applicant(s)
Kazuhiko Shigemi et al.

Examiner
Pierre E. Elisca

Art Unit
3621



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01/18/2002
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other:

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Examiner Pierre Eddy Elisca
United States Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is in response to Application No. 10/050,553, filed on 01/18/2002.
2. Claims 1-9 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

4. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Haseltine et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,578,015).

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As per claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9 Haseltine discloses a computer-implemented method/system of presenting an electronic bill from a biller (or billing payment or charge collecting) to a customer over a computer network, comprising:

a notice information management unit which manages requested contents to be notified to the users via a network in correspondence to each address on said network provided in correspondence to each of said users respectively (see., abstract, col 2, lines 63-67, col 3, lines 1-67, col 11, lines 32-61, specifically bill presentment and payment database 400, and email notification);

a requested contents notice unit which transmits said requested contents which are managed by said notice information management unit and said addresses of said users corresponding to said requested contents to each of said users via said network by Email (see., abstract, col 7, lines 34-47, specifically wherein said the active area 430 may also include notification functionality adapted to generate and send an email); a settlement unit which makes a settlement on said network when there is an access to said address notified by said requested contents notice unit from said user corresponding to said address and a paying instruction regarding said requested contents from said user is received (see., abstract, fig 2, item 260, col 11, lines 32-62, customer payments or settlement).

As per claims 2, 3, Haseltine discloses the claimed limitations of a use information management unit which manages a period of time (period of time or billing due date) which has been predetermined every user and during which the use of said charge collecting system is permitted (see., abstract, col 8, lines 9-64);

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and wherein said notice information management unit manages said notice information on the basis of use management information including said requested contents and said address of said use information management unit, and said requested contents notice unit receives a control of the transmission of said Email in accordance with said use management information of said use information management unit (see., abstract, col 7, lines 34-47, specifically wherein said the active area 430 may also include notification functionality adapted to generate and send an email).

As per claim 6, Haseltine discloses the claimed limitations wherein said settlement unit makes the settlement in accordance with an SET (secure electronic transactions) see., col 5, lines 37-57, col 9, lines 5-67).

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Pierre Eddy Elisca at (703) 305-3987. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday from 6:30AM. to 5:00PM.

If any attempt to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on (703) 305-9768.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

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The Official Fax Number For TC-3600 is:

(703) 305-7687


Pierre Eddy Elisca

Patent Examiner

November 10, 2003